

# **“Everybody’s Island”**

**(2<sup>nd</sup> Version)**

**A sketch comedy idea by Jonathan D. Steinhoff**

**(1<sup>st</sup> vers. copyright 8.6.12; 2<sup>nd</sup> vers. 8.28.12)**

A scene from an imaginary TV show, “Everybody’s Island,” the premise of the show being an attempt to reconstruct “Gilligan’s Island”, with an extra twist. In this version, after a group of people become shipwrecked on a tiny, deserted island, they all live to see their grandchildren become teenagers.

The scene is a dance attended by all of the inhabitants of the island. The original shipwrecked, the grandparents, are clustered together. Each falls right into their usual dispositions, banter, arguments, having had considerable opportunity over time to become familiar and overly familiar with one another’s behavior.

In no time, island politics comes up in the conversation of the original shipwrecked, it being that they run the island.

The sketch allows humorously transparent references to matters that relate to the American race for president, through obvious exposition presented in a clichéd manner, as if to teach viewers certain things about the contest between Romney and Obama.

The superimposing of what is actually a discussion related to American politics over what would presumably be an island politics discussion has this particular point to make regarding who is truly to blame for the U.S. economy, which is perhaps the deciding issue of the American election:

In the American contest, Romney would want people to believe that the serious problems with the American economy have Obama to blame, as Obama presumably has a free hand to address these problems by using his simple Democrat majority in the Senate. This ignores or seeks to cover-up a fact that should be known to those who follow politics more closely. Namely, that Republican use of the filibuster renders the Democratic simple majority in the Senate impotent, as the filibuster can only be broken with a two-thirds majority, thus blocking any vote that does not have this degree of support – far more than a simple majority. Obama has no such free hand, and the Republicans have thus blocked his important efforts to pass a jobs bill. The Romney assertion is akin to blaming a man with his hands tied for an act you yourself (the Republicans) committed.

In the comedy sketch, the judgment of the island’s president would be blamed for the island’s bad economy; he responds that he couldn’t get anyone to agree on any of his plans to fix the economy, his hands were tied; the counter-argument is that he had a majority on his side; he responds that a filibuster was used, therefore, his hands truly were tied, he didn’t need a simple majority, he needed a two-thirds majority.

Finally, they all laugh, say “Whatever!” and dance.

**THE END**